

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No. _____

As below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses and citizenships are as stated below next to our respective names.

We believe we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

HIGH DENSITY COBALT-MANGANESE COPRECIPITATED NICKEL HYDROXIDE
AND PROCESS FOR ITS PRODUCTION

the specification of which

(check one) X is attached hereto.
 was filed on _____ as Application Serial No. _____
 and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to us to be material to the patentability of this application as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate(s) listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate(s) having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

| <u>2000-337873</u> | <u>JAPAN</u> | <u>06/11/00</u> | <u>Priority Claimed</u> |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| (Number) | (Country) | (Day/Mon/Year Filed) | <u> X </u> Yes <u> </u> No |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | <u> </u> Yes <u> </u> No |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | <u> </u> Yes <u> </u> No |

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| _____ (Application Serial No.) | _____ (Filing Date) | _____ (Status) (patent, pend., abandon.) |
| _____ (Application Serial No.) | _____ (Filing Date) | _____ (Status) (patent, pend., abandon.) |
| _____ (Application Serial No.) | _____ (Filing Date) | _____ (Status) (patent, pend., abandon.) |

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As named inventors, we hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

| NAMES | REGISTRATION NUMBERS |
|--|----------------------|
| Paul D. Greeley Charles N.J. Ruggiero | 31,019 28,468 |

| SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: | DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: |
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We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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| FULL NAME OF INVENTOR | LAST NAME ITO | FIRST NAME Hiroyuki | MIDDLE NAME |
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Inventor's signature Hiroyuki Ito Date October 19, 2001
Hiroyuki Ito

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Inventor's signature MAMORU SHIMAKAWA Date October 19, 2001
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Inventor's signature Toyoshi Iida Date October 19, 2001
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